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of his death; but the provisions of this item shall vest in the said son only a life estate in said lands, and nothing more." *Held*, that the words describing those entitled after the son's death are words of purchase, and not of inheritance, and the rule in Shelley's Case does not apply, and the son took only a life estate. *Earnhart v. Earnhart*, 26 N. E. Rep. 895 (Ind.).

**REAL PROPERTY — STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS — INDEPENDENT ADVERSE HOLDINGS.** — In Alabama independent adverse holdings of land cannot be added to make up the statutory period and bar a recovery; but some privity must be shown between the adverse holders. *Lucy v. Tennessee & C. R. Co.*, 8 So. Rep. 866 (Ala.).

**STATUTE OF LIMITATION — CONVERSION — DEMAND AND REFUSAL.** — A lease belonging to the plaintiff was fraudulently taken from him by his son and deposited without his knowledge with B in 1881, as security for the repayment of money lent by B, who held the lease without knowledge of the fraud. B having become bankrupt, his trustee in 1889 assigned the debt to the defendant and handed the lease over to him. Subsequently the plaintiff demanded the lease of the defendant, and on his refusal to return it sued for detinue and conversion, to which the defendant pleaded the Statute of Limitations. *Held*, that the statute began to run from the time when the plaintiff first had a complete cause of action against the defendant, irrespective of the question whether he had a previous cause of action against B; that the statute, therefore, only began to run from the date of the demand and refusal, and was no answer to the action (following *Spackman v. Foster*, L. R. 11 Q. B. D. 99). The decision contained a dictum by Lord Esher that if one man is guilty of a wrongful conversion, and afterwards a second man converts the same thing, the cause of action against the second man is not barred by the statute, though the cause of action against the first man accrued more than six years before the second conversion; that the property in chattels is not changed by the Statute of Limitations, though more than six years has elapsed. *Miller v. Dell* [1891], 1 Q. B. 468 (Ct. of App.) (Eng.).

**WILLS — RIGHT OF JUDGMENT-CREDITOR OF THE HEIR TO CONTEST THE WILL OF TESTATOR.** — Testator, by his will, devised all his real estate to others than his only son and heir-at-law. Previous to testator's death one of the creditors of the son secured judgments against the son which became liens on all the real estate which the son had or might hereafter have. *Held*, that such judgment-creditor had a sufficient interest to entitle him to contest the validity of the will. *In re Langevin's Will*, 47 N. W. Rep. 1133 (Wis.).

**WILL — ADEMPTION — PRESUMPTION AGAINST DOUBLE PORTIONS.** — Testator by his will bequeathed twenty-one twenty-fourth shares in a brewery business to his three sons as tenants in common. The eldest son, being employed as a manager in the business, pressed his father for an increase of salary. The father transferred to the eldest son two of the twenty-fourth shares in lieu of salary. *Held*, that in this case the presumption against double portions arose, and as that presumption had not been rebutted, the gift of the two shares must be treated as an ademption of the eldest son's one-third part, and he could therefore take only five of the remaining nineteen shares. *Re Lacon*, 64 L. T. Rep. N. S. 22 (Eng.).

## REVIEWS.

**A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF SALES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING THE LAW OF CHATTEL MORTGAGES.** By Christopher G. Tiedeman, author of "Real Property," "Commercial Paper," etc. The F. H. Thomas Law Book Co. St. Louis, 1891. 8vo. Pages 769.

The author's purpose in publishing this new work on sales is, as he says in his preface, to supply a "comprehensive treatise of a distinctively American type." But in fact it is so comprehensive that it is more a digest than a treatise. Little space is given as a whole to the discuss-

sion of principles. A vast number of cases are cited to support the text, and they are well arranged in connection with the propositions. The laborious research of the author in this direction is shown by the fact that his table of cases cited covers in itself one hundred and eighty-seven pages. The book will be of less value to students than to the profession. The great scope of the work, treating as it does on chattel mortgages, involuntary and judicial sales, auction sales, sales by agents and personal representatives, and the rights of *bona fide* purchasers, besides the usual matters, shows that there is no room for a thorough discussion of principles. It is distinctly a book for the profession, and fills a want that has for some time been growing more noticeable. It will not compete with the work of Benjamin, nor render that able treatise less necessary, when a careful examination of principles is required. It is rather an addition to the whole subject, and valuable because it throws light on the law of sales in this country.

D. T. D.

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DOCUMENTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTION. By William Houston, M.A. Carswell & Co. Toronto, 1891. 8vo. Pages 338.

This is a collection in one volume of the documents which contain the Constitution of the Dominion of Canada, and illustrate its historical development. If to reprint a number of these old Acts and Conventions, and accompany them with historical information and references in the form of notes, appears either no very difficult thing to do, or a thing of uncertain value when done, it must be said that the result is a book which a person who studies or teaches Canadian constitutional history cannot afford to neglect. French documents are given little place, for it is the editor's belief that one following the true line of development of the Canadian constitution is led back, not to the French *régime* in Canada, but to the colonial government of what is now the United States.

The needs of students of political and legal science in universities and law schools are held primarily in view in the scheme of this work; but it also presents facts which men who are not specialists, but who care for history, wish to have at command. Especially noteworthy groups of treaties are those relating to extradition and to the fisheries stipulations with France and the United States.

W. F. P.

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WILLS AND INTESTATE SUCCESSION. By James Williams. London: Adam & Charles Black. 1891. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 12mo. pp. xii and 284. Cloth. Price \$1.50.

This little volume is the first of a series of similar text-books upon other branches of the law, to be edited by well-known members of the English bar. The aim is to present in a compendious form the history, development, and practical bearing of modern principles of law. As a neatly condensed summary of the law of wills and intestate succession, this little book will doubtless ably fulfill its mission. The space allotted to the work does not permit of that exhaustive treatment for which the practising lawyer naturally prefers the larger text-books; but as a handy little reference-book, it may be found useful even by the profession. It is intended, however, more particularly for students and laymen.

J. G. K.